

THE CURRENT.

WM. H. MULLANE

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The fifty-sixth congress convened Monday and Willie delivered his message over which he has pondered so long but into which he succeeded in getting very little of real worth to the people, who are supposed to—but don't—represent. The chief aim of the message seemed to be to bolster up the republican party and the single or gold standard, all else being of secondary consideration in the eyes of Hanna's man. Despite his efforts to uphold the gold standard McKinley in his message admitted its weakness. He said:

"Happily at the present time we are not compelled to resort to loans to supply gold. It has been done in the past, however, and may have to be done in the future."

McKinley admits then that there is no certainty about gold even with a single standard, yet the republican press has been howling at the hoarse about the "over abundant supply of gold" that "would, has and will" continue to flow into the treasury under the gold standard. If that be true, why does McKinley admit the possibility of having to resort to loans to secure gold? The single standard was used as a scare-crow to secure votes for the republican party, and now that McKinley admits this, what will Hanna do with Willie?

The people of the United States hardly expected to find in the report of the head of the cabinet department a polemic discussion of the attitude of the United States toward their newly acquired possessions such as is contained in the report of Mr. Elihu Root, secretary of war. They had rather expected to find it in the message of President McKinley to Congress.

Secretary Root makes a masterly presentation of his way of looking at the question. His assumptions are as follows:

1. The United States as a nation have a right to acquire such additional territory.
2. The people of the ceded territory are subject to the dominion of the United States, subject to no legal limitations except such as are contained in the treaty of cession.
3. The islands have no right to ask to be treated as territory previously acquired has been treated.
4. The islands have no right to assert claims under the constitution established by the people of the United States to meet conditions existing on the American continent.
5. The islands have no right to assert any claims not found in the treaty of cession.
6. The judgement and charity of the United States are the only guides of the colonial policy, colonial inhabitants not being endowed with the ancient American right of government by consent of the governed.

Mr. Elihu Root, before he became secretary of war, was one of the best lawyers in a city in which first-class lawyers abound. The criticism of his analysis which the people of the United States will make is that it insists so rigorously on the provisions "nominally in the bond." It is the way with minds accustomed to taking precise legal views of questions. What is not down on the paper is not binding. This can hardly be said to be the best ethical view of a question.

In his analysis Elihu Root does not consider the poor Monroe doctrine which the United States once maintained with such pride. It is not down on any law book, nor is it mentioned in any treaty of cession, and therefore it need not be recognized.

Nor does Mr. Elihu Root consider any promises which may have been made during the war to the people of the ceded islands. They are not down in the treaty of cession.

This may be a good legal view of the question but it is not a good American view.

John Wanamaker is a republican who has done the party some good in his day. He was postmaster general in the cabinet of Benjamin Harrison. Long time has been a local participant in the politics of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania; he is thoroughly familiar with his party's methods and record. Therefore what he says will be taken as the truth unless disproved by a preponderance of evidence. Through the agency of the New York World, Mr. Wanamaker contributed the following summary of conditions in Philadelphia:

"In Philadelphia we have not had an honest election for many years and the debauchery of the ballot has weakened the system and prediction of a struggle with the dominant as called

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republican machine. This has not been the growth of a day or a year, but has been perfected by a steady, systematic development of the most minute details of original ingenuity. The machine has educated its followers in election crime, rewarded them according to their perfection of fraudulent arts and extolled and honored the leadership which best knew how to devise and avail itself of corrupt practices, and prospects and promotes its debauched toms and deceptions."

Gage's Bond Call.

Mr. Bryan is very emphatic in speaking of the recent bond call by Secretary Gage. He says and every one knows that there was no necessity to purchase the bonds payable five or six years hence at a high premium except for the purpose of lending a helping hand to the speculators of Wall street. Every one knows that there is not a sufficient volume of money in this country. This fact is shown by the recent delenda in which the eastern speculators found themselves. Money in circulation comes south in the fall to move and pay for a certain crop, and it leaves the money centers of the east high and dry.

There are millions of securities and abundant credit, but actual money is scarce. Then when the money is sent back east to pay for insurance of all kinds, for manufacturing goods and the many things which they now buy of others, the south's exchequer is depleted. It is the business of the government to supply enough metallic money to prevent either of these conditions. It is not the duty of the government, however to come in and rob either section, but a republican administration will help Wall street when it is in a pinch, when the farmers are in need they must hustle or starve.

It is, says the Austin Statesman, against this discrimination, that Mr.

Bryan protests when he says:

"The republicans have been saying all the time that there was plenty of money in the country. When the free silver people advocated the enlargement of the monetary system they were told that the circulation fully met the demands of the money trade."

"Now, when Wall street becomes a little short of money the government is prompt to come to its relief. All we free silver people ask is that Uncle Sam will do as much by the farmer and laborer."

"The gold men claiming that there is plenty of money in the country, never make the proper distinction between a standard dollar and a credit dollar. They assume that for all purposes an actual dollar and a promise to pay dollar are the same."

"The failure to make the distinction between the money and the final account and the various forms of credit employed in the transaction of the country has greatly confused the minds of those controlled by the gold standard idea."

Brave Men Fall

Victims to stomach, liver and kidney troubles as well as women, and all feel the results in loss of appetite, poisons in the blood, backache, nervousness, headache and tired, listless, run-down feeling. But there's no need to feel like that. J. W. Gardner, of Idaville, Ind., says: "Electric Bitters are just the thing for a man when he don't care whether he lives or dies. It gave me new strength and good appetite. I can now eat anything and have a new lease on life." Only 60 cents at Blackmore Drug Co. Every bottle guaranteed.

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LAWRENCE, Anderson Co., Ky., 1904.
TO THE TRADE:
My brand was selected for use at U. S. Marine Hospital at Washington, D. C., after being analyzed by the eminent chemist, W. M. Now, over thirty years ago, the leading brands of Kentucky, Maryland and Pennsylvania. It should be borne in mind that in this department of the government service the sample appear in plain bottles, without marks of any kind, and the selection of the Searcy Whisky two years, '92 and '94, on its merits, over such a large number of prominent brands is a record that few distillers can show. The water used for the manufacture of this whisky is from the noted Spring in Anderson county, Ky., which stands at a temperature of 54 degrees the year round, with a simply inexhaustible. This water is at all times clear. I will further state that I have never had a single barrel returned.
Very Respectfully,
J. S. SEARCY.

Of Dangerous Import.

Congress is to be memorialized to enact a law against lynching. This is another move to reduce the jurisdiction of the state that the jurisdiction of the federal courts may be proportionately extended. Such a bill cannot pass now, but such a bill may hereafter find its way to statutory enactment if the pronounced tendencies of this period, in the direction of centralization of all power within the scope and exercise of the federal government, be not bravely and vigorously opposed.

The crime of lynching is local in occurrence, local in its application as it affects community or state, and is necessarily local in its punishment. It is confined to no particular section of the country, despite the efforts of eastern memorialists to create a contrary impression, although it prevalence is admitted to be greater in the populous negro districts of the south where the bestial offense that, above all others, moves the uprisen community to ignore constituted authorities while it attends to visitations of retributive justice with ready hand is therefore of greater frequency.

Lynching is confined almost exclusively to the punishment of a single offense that is the most infamous, unnatural and revolting in the criminal category. Wherever it occurs, whether north, south, east or west, neither the grip of the law nor public sentiment in behalf of the orderly punishment offenses against the peace and dignity of the state, has been strong enough to prevent the grim and violent ministrations of the supreme court of Judge Lynch whose juries are the people and whose decisions are as unalterable as the hearts, the loves and passions of men.

If these colored agitators and their blubbery co-operators in the north and east, who want to throw the punishment of the crime of lynching into the laps of the federal courts, would put aside their hysteria and devote their energies as thoughtful men and women to the education of that element of the black race out of the bestial and incomprehensible. Just that, notwithstanding the absolute certainty of death in whatever form the very climax of diabolism suggests, impels it to the commission of an unspeakable crime, they could accomplish for society a great good. But when, moved by prejudice, sectionalism, ignorance and hysteria to the suggestion of a plan that will no more stop lynching but excite greater awe to men who take

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upon themselves the punishment of crime than the state courts, merely to extend the jurisdiction of the federal tribunals they enlist their service in a scheme that carries with it not only the suspicion that the state courts cannot be relied upon to do justice to the colored offenders, but that these must yield up their jurisdiction to the encroachment of federal authority until, indeed, the sovereignty of the state shall be wholly overthrown.—Houston Post.

Just Saved His Life.

It was a thrilling episode that Charles Davis of Bowerston, O., lately had from a frightful death. For two years a severe lung trouble constantly grew worse until it seemed he must die of consumption. Then he began to use Dr. King's New Discovery and lately wrote: "It gave instant relief and effected a permanent cure." Such wonderful cures have for 25 years proven its power to cure all throat, chest and lung troubles. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free at Blackmore Drug Co.

Colorado Women Legislators.

Addison sought to frighten some progressive and strong minded English dames of his time out of their interest in political affairs by telling them that such a course would make them home-ly. Had Addison lived in the present time and visited some of the feminine members of the Colorado legislature he could not have honestly advanced that argument. In the main they are handsome women, whose faces beam with intelligence as they talk of governmental principles and political issues. Nor does their activity in affairs of state lessen their interest in domestic concerns. A new cooking recipe, a bit of information about home decoration or a pattern sheet of the latest fashionable gown interspersed their just as much as though they were not stateswomen.

Some of the most beneficent laws on the Colorado statute books were introduced by these women legislators. Dr. Mary Barry, a talented young physician of Pueblo, introduced and secured the passage of a measure which pro-

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In the last year recorded in the report, that of 1897, was the largest in the history of the department, being of the value of \$22,783,544. The bounty upon which was \$157,504. Germany also is now preparing to develop the fishing fleets of the Baltic and North seas and has spent some \$3,000,000 in opening up fishing harbors. In France in 1897 the sum of \$123,187, was spent upon fishing vessels, and Japan last year voted \$75,000 per annum to develop its deep sea fisheries.

Private information from Cape Town to New York wholesale merchants indicates that the war scare in the Transvaal is having a serious effect on trade generally. Shipments from New York during the past week to British South Africa barely reached \$150,000. This is hardly half the amount of the exports from New York during any week under ordinary conditions. Steamers now leaving for African ports carry considerable lumber and manufactured iron, but only a limited amount of other customary effects.

Thousands of Texas goats are now being slaughtered and their flesh sold for mutton. While the deception is reprehensible, the meat is all right. A spicy Texas Angora is both toothsome and wholesome, and there seems to be no good reason why the meat should not be sold under its own name.

We speak of the Indian as "poor Joe," but he sold over a million dollars' worth of land to the government the other day.

An Irritating Phrase.

"Are you seriously ill?" asked the well meaning friend.

"Oh, no," answered the dyspeptic with a jarring, sarcastic laugh. "I hurt all over and don't care whether the sun rises tomorrow or not. But I'm not seriously ill. I'm jocosely, flippantly and facetiously ill. I'm going through all the symptoms, but I don't mean one of them."—Washington Star.

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